

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

SCCT-01 /118 W

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R 100056Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5300

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS USUN 0067

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF, LE

SUBJECT: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S PRESS CONFERENCE - MIDDLE
EAST, LEBANON, ZIONISM

1. AT HIS TRADITIONAL START OF THE YEAR PRESS CONFERENCE
JANUARY 9, U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM SPOKE ALONG
FOLLOWING LINES REGARDING MIDDLE EAST QUESTION, LEBANON,
AND ZIONISM:

QUOTE (A) MIDDLE EAST/ SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING --

WALDHEIM CONSIDERS IT PREMATURE TO JUDGE WHAT THE COUNCIL WILL
DO IN THE MEETING BEGINNING JANUARY 12. HE REGRETS THAT ALL
PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE, SPECIFICALLY ISRAEL, WILL NOT BE
PARTICIPATING IN THE DEBATE. HE HOPES THE DEBATE TAKES PLACE IN
A POSITIVE MANNER, BUT JUDGES IT PREMATURE TO PREDICT. HE SEES A
SERIOUS INTEREST ON THE PART OF COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT TO HAVE ACRI-
MONIOUS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, BUT RATHER SERIOUS DEBATE THAT
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CONTRIBUTES TO AN OVERALL SOLUTION. HE DOES NOT EXPECT THE

COUNCIL TO SOLVE THE OVERALL PROBLEM IN ONE SESSION BECAUSE IT IS "TOO COMPLEX AND GRAVE." HE PREDICTS THE MATTER MAY GO BACK TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TABLE ONE DAY, THAT ALL POSSIBILITIES MUST BE CONSIDERED. THE STATUS OF THE PALESTINIANS WILL BE A MAJOR PROBLEM DISCUSSED. HE NOTED THAT RESOLUTION 242 FOCUSES ON PALESTINIANS AS REFUGEES, AND THERE IS NOW A GROWING TENDENCY TO RECOGNIZE THE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE PALESTINIANS.

(B) LEBANON --

ASKED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF POSSIBLE SYRIAN OR ISRAELI INTERVENTION, WALDHEIM REPEATED WHAT HE HAS SAID BEFORE THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF UNITY IN LEBANON IS INDISPENSABLE FOR PEACE NOT ONLY IN THE AREA BUT WORLDWIDE; THAT THERE MUST BE NO FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND THE MATTER MUST BE DEALT WITH BY THE LEBANESE THEMSELVES WHETHER THEY BE MOSLEUM, CHRISTIAN, PALESTINIAN OR OTHERWISE. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE AREA, WALDHEIM DETECTED "A STRONG TENDENCY" IN THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN THE UNITY OF LEBANON.

(C) IMPLEMENTATION OF ZIONISM AND RACISM RESOLUTIONS --

THE SECRETARIAT IS CAREFULLY STUDYING THIS SUBJECT WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS VERY DELICATE AND WILL NOT ACT UNTIL THIS IS DONE. UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN00067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760009-0648
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760168/aaaacifh.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUN 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S PRESS CONFERENCE - MIDDLE EAST, LEBANON, ZIONISM
TAGS: PFOR, XF, LE, UN, (WALDHEIM, KURT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006